



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Legislative Counsel
Approved For Release 2004/09/03 : CIA-RDP81M00980R001400110037-5
Washington, D. C. 20505

Telephone:

TO: Mr. James R. Robinson
General Crimes Division
Department of Justice

15 May 1978

Jim:

Attached for your information is the Agency's proposed firearms legislation package which the Director signed on 11 May 1978 and was subsequently sent to the Congress. Thanks again for your help on this matter.

Assistant Legislative Counsel

FORM 1533 OBSOLETE
6-68 PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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of confidential documents and materials. There are other circumstances where it is necessary for Agency personnel to carry firearms if intelligence facilities, personnel and information are to be adequately protected against physical threats. While the number of circumstances in which Agency personnel need authority to carry and use firearms, and which are not clearly covered by the present statutory authority, is not great, those that do exist are extremely important. For example, the CIA operates a small number of training and other facilities that, for reasons of security, cannot be openly identified with the CIA; without the security provided through the use of armed guards, these facilities could not be appropriately protected. Use of armed guards for such purposes is nowhere specifically prohibited by statute; nor does the legislative history on the proviso, "[T]hat the Agency shall have no police, subpoena, law enforcement powers, or internal-security functions..." in section 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended (50 U.S.C. 403(d)(3)), militate against the Agency's utilization of armed guards at CIA covert installations. However, there is no explicit authorization for the Agency to protect its facilities,

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